

basketball, baseball, outdoor symphonies, art exhibits and documentaries.

Multicasting has also benefited WRAL, Goodman said, by giving the station the opportunity to respond to new programming opportunities.

"We were broadcasting a basketball game and had some flood news in North Carolina. We interrupted the game, did the flood coverage and then said: 'If you want to watch the basketball game, stay on Channel 5.1. We are going to do continuous flood coverage on Channel 5.2 and we'll have our weather radar on all the time on Channel 5.3.' What you can do with this technology is limited only by your imagination."

Goodman said he sees multicasting as a way to expand the station's brand with a broader array of programming.

"We don't see multicasting as an opportunity to start a new full-time channel or something like that."

Ditto for datacasting. WRAL now has 200 volunteers with PCs equipped to receive its data broadcasts.

"We send IP traffic 24 hours a day. We ask users to allot about 500 Mb on their hard drive and dedicate it to the data."

A key application is local news. The station is working toward a service where viewers can watch a newscast on-demand on their PC, either in its entirety or on an interactive story-by-story basis.

Currently, WRAL has about 700 HD viewers in its 23-county market. As in the early days of his career, Goodman now makes sure every new DTV set owner in the Raleigh-Durham area gets an outdoor television antenna, courtesy of the station.

"We know most of our viewers and get lots of comments from them."

The station uses an e-mail group conference to stay in touch with digital set owners.

As for fellow broadcasters who see no business model for an immediate return on their investment from digital television, Goodman offers another homily: "Sometimes you have to spend money just to stay in business."

MUST-CARRY A MUST-HAVE

Though Goodman's aggressive use of digital technology in his local market is impressive, even he acknowledges the national DTV transition is facing some big obstacles.

One of the largest stumbling blocks is digital must-carry, something FCC Chairman Kennard has cautioned broadcasters not to depend upon. Even if enacted, a new must-carry requirement would face an uncertain future with years of legal battles and appeals. But, to Goodman, it's a make or break issue.

"Cable has 70 percent of the homes," he said. "How are we going to get digital into the homes if they are not on cable? I think we need full digital must-carry on satellite as well. And I mean full digital must-carry—everything, including our data."

Goodman proposes coupling digital must-carry with a now elusive public service requirement.

"How can we ask for digital must-carry if we don't agree to public service standards? To me, the two go together."

"Along with getting this digital license comes a commitment to serve the public interest, whatever that is," he continued. "That's not a very defined notion. It needs to be defined as a minimum standard. We need this standard set and then we need to return to a broadcasting code of conduct. I'm really showing my age talking about the NAB code, but that was a great thing."

Also essential for a successful transition, said Goodman, is a requirement for an integrated digital tuner in all new DTV receivers, preferably by 2003, and a requirement

that every digital station air at least two hours of HDTV programming each night between 6 p.m. and 11 p.m.

"We broadcasters asked Congress to do high definition," reminded Goodman. "If you take a digital license, you should be required to do HD each night. The networks need to push primetime HD. If they do that, the stations will have to carry it."

Finally, he called on television receiver manufacturers to come forward with public assurance of a fix for multipath problems that can block reception in urban areas. Though he said WRAL has had no problems with the 8-VSB transmission standard and that he favors retaining it, a strong message of assurance either through a technical standard or other objective method must be sent to calm fears over the technology.

"Broadcasters need assurance," Goodman insisted. "Tell us we don't have to worry about the multipath problem."

In addition, he said the consumer electronics industry has "to stand up and say this receiver thing is not a problem. It can be with a standard or some other way. But it must be said."

SENATOR PAUL COVERDELL

Mr. HELMS. Mr. President, President George Bush summoned Paul Coverdell to Washington one day in 1989 to ask Paul to consider serving as the 11th Director of the Peace Corps.

It will come as no surprise that Paul's tenure at the Peace Corps was marked by intense effort, positive results, and commitment to American interests. He gave a high priority to the well-being of the volunteers he sent out, who were, after all, the face of young America to other countries around the world.

There were significant hurdles to overcome at the Peace Corps, including flagging morale and limited resources. Nonetheless, Paul Coverdell recognized the need to respond to the high international historic drama of sweeping changes, for example, the fall of communism in Europe.

He found the necessary resources to send Peace Corps volunteers to countries struggling to emerge from the weight of communist rule. Under Paul Coverdell's leadership, the first volunteers were sent to Hungary, Poland, Romania, and the Czech and Slovak Republics.

Paul Coverdell took great pride in the Peace Corps; for example, he unfailingly referred to it as "The United States Peace Corps" and he described the Peace Corps as "a vibrant, vital part of United States foreign policy."

In tribute to our esteemed and beloved departed colleague and friend, today we are approving legislation to designate the Washington office of the Peace Corps as the "Paul D. Coverdell Peace Corps Headquarters."

I know Senators will unhesitatingly support this fitting tribute to a remarkable gentleman who was without question a committed public servant, a statesman, and a friend.

Mr. President, seeing nobody seeking recognition, I suggest the absence of a quorum.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will call the roll.

The legislative clerk proceeded to call the roll.

Mr. HELMS. Madam President, I ask unanimous consent that the order for the quorum call be rescinded.

The PRESIDING OFFICER (Ms. COLLINS). Without objection, it is so ordered.

APPOINTMENTS

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Chair, on behalf of the Vice President, pursuant to 10 U.S.C. 9355(a), appoints the Senator from Colorado (Mr. ALLARD), from the Committee on Armed Services, to the Board of Visitors of the U.S. Air Force Academy.

The Chair, on behalf of the Vice President, pursuant to 10 U.S.C. 4355(a), appoints the Senator from Pennsylvania (Mr. SANTORUM), from the Committee on Armed Services, to the Board of Visitors of the U.S. Military Academy.

The Chair, on behalf of the Vice President, pursuant to 10 U.S.C. 6968(a), appoints the Senator from Arizona (Mr. MCCAIN), from the Committee on Armed Services, to the Board of Visitors of the U.S. Naval Academy.

The Chair, on behalf of the majority leader, pursuant to Public Law 105-341, announces the appointment of the following individual to the Women's Progress Commemoration Commission: Becky Norton Dunlop, of Virginia, vice Elaine L. Chao.

ORDERS FOR TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 27, 2001

Mr. HELMS. Madam President, I ask unanimous consent that when the Senate completes its business today, it adjourn until the hour of 10 a.m. on Tuesday, February 27. I further ask unanimous consent that on Tuesday, immediately following the prayer, the Journal of proceedings be approved to date, the morning hour be deemed expired, the time for the two leaders be reserved for their use later in the day, and the Senate then begin a period for morning business, with Senators allowed to speak for up to 10 minutes each, with the following exceptions: Senator THOMAS, or his designee, 10 to 11 a.m.; Senator DURBIN, or his designee, 11 a.m. to 12 p.m. Further, I ask unanimous consent that if the leader time is used during the controlled time, the controlled time be extended accordingly.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

Mr. HELMS. Further, I ask unanimous consent that the Senate stand in recess from the hours of 12:30 p.m. to 2:15 p.m. tomorrow for the weekly policy conferences to meet.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

PROGRAM

Mr. HELMS. Madam President, for the information of all Senators, the

Senate will be in a period for morning business prior to the 12:30 p.m. recess tomorrow. Upon reconvening at 2:15 p.m., the Senate is expected to resume morning business for the remainder of the afternoon. Senators are reminded to be in the Senate Chamber by 8:30 p.m. to proceed at 8:40 p.m. to the Hall of the House of Representatives for the President's address.

Madam President, I ask unanimous consent that when the Senate completes its business on Tuesday after-

noon, it recess until the hour of 8:30 p.m. for the joint session of Congress to hear the President's address.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

ADJOURNMENT UNTIL TOMORROW
AT 10 A.M.

Mr. HELMS. Madam President, if there be no further business to come before the Senate, I now ask unanimous consent that the Senate stand in adjournment under the previous order.

There being no objection, the Senate, at 4:05 p.m., adjourned until Tuesday, February 27, 2001, at 10 a.m.

NOMINATION

Executive nomination received by the Senate February 26, 2001:

DEPARTMENT OF THE TREASURY

MARK A. WEINBERGER, OF MARYLAND, TO BE AN ASSISTANT SECRETARY OF THE TREASURY, VICE JONATHAN TALISMAN, RESIGNED.